

County of



Saratoga

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SARATOGA COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD MEETING

March 9, 2015 – 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Andrew Prestigiacomo, Saratoga Springs PD; Lenny Fornabia, NYSP; Frank Mc Garity, NYS Park Police; Brent Dupras, Sheriff's Office; Thomas Parks, Charlton Police; James Trottier, Stillwater PD; Todd Moulthrop, So. Glens Falls PD; Janine Stuchin, Prevention Council; Patrick Campion, D.A.'s Office; Mickey Mahoney, Probation; Cynthia Dort, Cornell Ext. of Saratoga; Rich Schoonmaker, Galway PD; Craig Hayner, Co. Clerk

Chairman Prestigiacomo called the meeting to order.

Chairman Prestigiacomo stated that Bob Murphy had a scheduled conflict today. Our next crackdown will be the St. Patrick's Day crackdown, March 13 – 18. Kelly Cook, Mr. Murphy's secretary, has either sent you an e-mail or called you with your allotment. Departments can utilize their money in any way they want. If you have not received a call or an e-mail, Kelly can be reached at the County's Emergency Management Office.

Chairman Prestigiacomo said since our last meeting, SSPD had 44 DWI arrests, and two were during the Super Bowl Crackdown.

Chairman Prestigiacomo stated SSPD partnered with the NYSP, Mrs. Dort and EMS personnel for car seat details at Wilton EMS and Clifton Park-Halfmoon EMS on

January 22nd and 23rd from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Both were a success. SSPD participated in the February 27th event at the C.P.– Halfmoon EMS as well.

Chairman Prestigiacomo stated the City's Chowder Fest on January 31st was a success.

Chairman Prestigiacomo said SSPD is hosting Below 100 on March 19th. Sign up is available through the DCJS website. This is an officer safety campaign about wearing seat belts, watching your speed, wearing your vests, etc. This will be held on the 3rd floor of City Hall.

Chairman Prestigiacomo said SSPD is hosting A.R.I.D.E. on April 20 – 21. Sign up is available through SAFENY website. He said this is needed before you can be considered for a DRE position.

Chairman Prestigiacomo stated the PTS, Child Passenger Safety and Highway Improvement grants have been announced and are available. Grant applications submitted through E-Grants (SAFENY website) are due May 15th. Semi-annual progress reports for 2014/2015 grants are due April 15th.

Mr. Campion said they have been steady with DWI's, and felony DWI's are increasing. BAC's are higher. He mentioned Vince's Law was effective November 24th. He said he has not seen a case charged with this as yet. He said if anyone has questions about it, just give his office a call.

Mr. Dupras stated they had nine DWI's during the Super Bowl Crackdown, and two were felonies.

Mr. Dupras said there will be a car seat check with Mrs. Dort and the SSPD at Malta EMS on March 20th from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. He said his goal is to provide in various locations one testing site per month throughout the County. Mr. Fornabia asked Mr. Dupras to provide them with that list when he has it, as they want to be a clearinghouse. Mr. Dupras said he is trying to send four people to the class that Mrs. Dort is organizing.

Mr. Dupras stated the Distracted Driving campaign is this week, and he is putting on extra people today, tomorrow and on the 11th to issue cell phone tickets, etc. They will also be doing extra patrols for the St. Patrick's Day Crackdown.

Mr. Dupras said they are working on the prom issues that will be coming up in May. They have started to get organized with that and working with the schools.

Mr. Dupras said they are participating in the Alive at 25 and Victim Impact Panels. A person will be available to be at those. Chairman Prestigiacomo said he could certainly use a backup.

Ms. Stuchin said last month, they held a Narcan training, and they have been offering those every other month. She stated this is a free one hour training, and the trainer comes from Albany.

Ms. Stuchin mentioned there will be a Victim Impact Panel tomorrow night.

Ms. Stuchin stated next Thursday is their Safe Spring Student Leadership Conference that they run with funding from the County's STOP-DWI program. This will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Gannett Auditorium at the Skidmore campus. This year, they are bringing in a group of young people from Dover, NH Youth 2 Youth Alliance. She said this conference will include 280 high school kids from Saratoga County and their SADD advisors. She mentioned last year's event was snowed out.

Ms. Stuchin said by next month, they will have put together a chart that outlines upcoming prom and graduation dates and locations.

Mr. Moulthrop stated they had their Marathon Dance this past weekend, and they broke the record again. He said everything went smoothly.

Mr. Fornabia said they are participating in the St. Patrick's Day initiative. They have been in touch with Clear Channel Communications who sponsors all of the concerts at SPAC. Some of these concerts warrant a lot of enforcement. For the more civilized ones, they will be coming up with custom signage to remind people not to drink and drive.

Mr. Fornabia said their DRE will be coming back here on May 7th. They are experiencing a turnover in this area that they have not had in a few years. Many of the senior guys have moved on. He said when they make a DRE, they take their best people. The problem with that is then they get promoted. They approached their headquarters to ask if they could use one of their Lieutenants. Hopefully, next month, they will have an answer.

Mr. McGarity stated concert season is coming, and the calendar is filling up.

Mr. Mahoney said they are continuing to see DWI's. When people get arrested, they get rid of their vehicles, but somehow, they are getting around.

Mr. Hayner said their T.V.'s have been installed and the psa's are running. He said offers are out there that if you have something you want to raise awareness on, just let him know.

Mrs. Dort stated car seat tech classes will be on March 20th from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and April 1st and 2nd from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. This is a free class. She stated that Malta EMS is looking to getting a couple of techs.

Mrs. Dort mentioned Bailey Wind is speaking on March 18th at the Rensselaer High School.

Mrs. Dort stated the Crime Victims' Vigil will be held on April 19th. She said she will be there with one of the Broken Heart displays. The event is powerful, and it is nice when the police departments are there showing support to the victims who are there.

Mrs. Dort said the CPS technician training class will be May 19 – 21 at the Clifton Park-Halfmoon EMS. On the third day, it will be held from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The certifications are for two years.

Mrs. Dort stated Alive at 25 is going well. At the last class, there was a person who had 100 tickets who lost their license and got it back. There was a motorcycle driver who led police on a chase down the Northway and crashed going to his daughter's third birthday party just because of the need for speed. She said they have a lot of work to do. She stated Kristen and Conan O'Rourke were there to speak. She said they are training two new instructors – Patty Donovan and Sgt. Morley. She stated there was a girl in the class, and her Dad is a football coach at U Albany. She said they will be taking the Alive at 25 class to the football team. She said this may lead to other opportunities.

Mr. Fornabia mentioned they are looking to hosting a motorcycle law enforcement training class at the State Police in Latham. He said this is great training.

Mrs. Dort stated there will be an Alive at 25 class on March 31st and a Distracted Driving class on March 30th.

** NEXT MEETING – MONDAY, APRIL 13TH AT 1:00 P.M. **

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann